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Chongryun Marks 25 Years: Presidential Message Received

Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) turned 25 years old on Sunday, May 25, 1980, with high appreciations of its shining achievements from President Kim Il Sung. A series of events were organized to commemorate its significant birthday, including a central gathering and a reception.

President Kim Il Sung in his congratulatory message to Chairman Han Duk Su of the Central Standing Committee of Chongryun stated:

"May 25, 1955, is an unforgettable historic day for the compatriots in Japan. On this very day Chongryun was formed to bring a fundamental turn in the destiny of the compatriots in Japan and the development of the movement of Koreans in Japan.

"With the formation of Chongryun representing their rights and interests, the compatriots in Japan became able to firmly defend the honor of being overseas citizens of the Republic (the DPRK) and national dignity and enjoy to their heart's satisfaction the worth of true life on the road of the righteous struggle for their homeland and people.

"In the course of the struggle for embodying th Juche idea in the movement of Koreans in Japan, it has been further steeled and tested and grown into a truly faithful servant of the masses of the compatriots enjoying undisputed support and trust of the entire compatriots in Japan and, developed into a dignified and authoritative organization of overseas citizens of the Republic widely known internationally."

President Kim Il Sung expressed deep thanks to Chongryun for its "precious feats" performed "for the fatherland and the nation over the last 25 years" in the name of the Wokers' Party of Korea, the DPRK Government and the entire Korean people.

He specified the following tasks to be carried out by Chongryun: (1) to strengthen its organization with the Juche-based unity and cohesion and rally compatriots around the DPRK Government; (2) to contribute to the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea by promoting national unity of Korean residents in this country and supporting the struggle of the south Korean people for democracy; (3) to improve the democratic national educational program and defend the democratic national rights of the resident compatriots; and (4) to cement further friendship and solidarity with the peoples of the world including the Japanese.

On the occasion of the anniversary day of Chongryun, many Chongryun activists and resident compatriots were cited by the DPRK Government for their meritorious service. Two were granted the title of People's Actor and large numbers awarded the title of Merited Teacher, reporter, Artist, Sportsman, and degrees including Ph. D.

In major illustration of Chongryun's service to the nation, the Central Academy, a refresher school for its activists, was decorated with the "Order of Kim Il Sung," the highest order of the DPRK.

Received were numerous cabies and gifts from the Central Committee of the WPK, the DPRK Government, and various organizations in the DPRK, together with those from international organizations and national organizations in many countries.

Guest speakers at the central rally included representatives various political parties and public organizations of this country, including the Japan Socialist Party, the Communist Party of Japan, the General Council of Trade Unions of Japan, the Japan Committee to Support the Independent and Peaceful Reunification of Korea.

Li Sang Tae, leader of the visiting National Pyongyang Art Troupe, gave an address, extending warm congratulations to Chongryun on its 25th birthday.

Chairman Han Duk Su gave a lengthy report, reviewing the 25 years of Chongryun and setting forth its tasks under the obtaining situation.

The central rally adopted a letter to the south Korean people, an appeal to the peoples of the world and a written request to the Japanese Government. (A text of the appeal to the peoples of the world is on page 4)

The central meeting of Koreans here was held on May 25 at the Korean Cultural Hall in Tokyo, celebrating the 25th birthday of Chongryun.

Kwangju Massacre; 1,000 Children, Women, Students, Citizens Killed Indiscriminately by Chon Troops, Over 10,000 Injured

Over 300,000 students and citizens of Kwangju were brutally silenced on May 27 by martial law army and special forces which discriminately slayed the people including children, women and the injured.

About 1,000 people were believed dead and over 10,000 injured in 10-day clashes with the army and police where the U.S. allowed south Korea to mobilize troops under the control of the "U.S.-ROK joint command."

The Washington government is to be blamed for Kwangju massacre. The U.S. always stood on the side of the Seoul martial law authorities bent on putting down democracy and freedom—it consive Lt. Gen. Chon Du Hwan to crack down on the people and further sent the two E-3A aircrafts, equipped with sophisticated radar, to Okinawa in order to blackmail people.

No one can check the south Korean people advancing towards democracy, freedom and reunification. (See detailed stories and photos on pages 2, 3 and 4.)

Soldiers kicking anti-"government" demonstrators arrested on streets of Kwangju

Martial law troops gained control of Kwangju City at 6 am on May 27 after heavy fighting with armed citizens and students.

At least 19 persons died in the fighting and an undetermined number were wounded.

Using tanks and heavy machine guns as well as small arms, paratroopers attacked the provincial headquarters building that the insurgents had taken over as their command post, and seized it in a firefight that lasted nearly three hours.

At least 400 persons were said to have been killed in last week's three days of street fighting that set the stage for May 27 bloody showdown.

About 300 persons were arrested by troops.

Associated Press reporters saw 60 to being led away after the battle, and later reporters witnessed soldiers kicking prisoners who were lying on the ground until an army major, seeing the reporters, ordered them to stop.

At midmorning, the city was quiet but an armed camp, with soldiers guarding all street entrances and most doorways in the nearly-deserted downtown streets.

Fifteen tanks were parked in the central section of the city, with four of them in front of the provincial headquarters that had been the anti-"government" fighters' command post.

A ring of soldiers, paratroopers and regular troops ringed the plaza, while some others built a sandbag gun emplacement in front of the building.

Citizens were cautious in talking to reporters but most comments indicated they had been sympathetic to the students who had led the insurgency.

"Don't label them as rioters," said one young man. Another man said, "If the governmt has anything it should regret, it should say so.

The firing began about 4 am and was extremely heavy for the first hour and 45 minutes after the troops rolled into the central plaza, then slackened off and continued intermittently until after dawn broke. The battle was over about 7 am.

On May 20, the anti-"government" struggle of students and citizens was fierce on the night of May 20 in Kwangju, South Cholla Province.

The number of participants in the anti-"government" demonstration swelled from over 100,000 in the morning to 200,000 on the night of May 20.

Some demonstrators carried on their shoulders the bodies of their colleagues who were brutally killed by the army and police and appealed to residents to join in the struggle for putting an end to the martial law administration.

Old and young men and even middle and high school students turned out and are valiantly fighting the army soldiers.

Citizens used rocks, steel pipes, sticks, knives, picks, Molotov cocktails and whatever was availabe to fight the army soldiers pouncing upon them.

As the struggle became fiercer, assuming riotous nature, the army fired rifles over bare-handed demonstrators.

Demonstrators completely surrounded the "provincial government office" building, not yielding to the brutal suppression by the martial law army.

They are shouting "lift the emergency martial law," "release Kim Dae Jung" and "Choe Gyu Ha and Chon Du Hwan, resign."

Frightened by this, the authorities mobilized helicopters to get documents out of the building.

Demonstrators burned the branch of government-controlled KBS broadcasting station. With this, the three radio stations in Kwangju were burned by demonstrators.

In the struggle over the last few days, 10 demonstrators were killed by the army and police and five policemen by demonstrators.

Thirteen buildings were wrecked or went off the air by the angry demonstrators.

All communications between Seoul and Kwangju were cut off from early this morning.

Demonstrators commandeered buses to expand their struggle and gasoline stations refueled their vehicles free of charge to support their struggle.

On the morning of May 20 representatives of demonstrators met with the provincial governor and the representatives demanded that the "government" formally apologize for the situation which was touched off by the brutalities of the army. They also demanded that paratroopers withdraw from the city and the military authorities account for the brutalities.

After the meeting the 50th Cholla provincial authorities announced that the martial law army including paratroopers would withdraw from Kwangju.

Kim Yong Sam, President of the New Democratic Party, at a news conference on the morning of May 20 sternly denounced the step of the authorities in strengthening the "emergency martial law," branding it as an outrageous act against the national goal.

"The present government is suppressing the democratic forces and freedom by proclaiming a stringent martial law surpassing the emergency decrees under the *yusin* system of Pak Jung Hi. Such tough step will encounter the resistance of the entire people," warned he. He demanded the authorities should release Kim Dae Jung and other arrested democratic figures and students and send back the troops to the barracks.

He also protested against the criminal step of the martial law authorities in banning all political activities and closing the campuses.

Arfid he strongly demanded an immediate repeal of the "emergency martial law."

Forty-seven opposition "national assemblymen" on May 20 decided to resign en bloc in protest against the repressive step of the authorities to expand the "emergency martial law" all over south Korea.

All the "cabinet members" of south Korea including the prime minister tendered their resignations en bloc on May 20 in face of the rapidly mounting anti-"government" struggle of the people.

On May 21, the number of Kwangju citizens participating in the rioting swelled to 300,000.

The flame of the resistance kindled by students and citizens of Kwangju has spread to 16 areas of South Cholla Province.

Anti-"government" demonstrators gained full control of Mokpo, Ryonggwang, Tamyang and many other towns. In these towns there was no move of the security authorities and they are under the control of demonstrators. Demonstrators attacked all the police stations in these towns and seized weapons. They captured large quantities of dynamites in Hwasun, a coal mine town. The anti-"government" forces are organizationally arming themselves, capturing weapons and ammunition.

The south Korean authorities admitted that rifles and ammunition were captured by the anti-"government" forces.

A transport unit organized by demonstrators is freely driving to and from local towns by vehicles they captured from the army and police.

Journalists also started a strike in protest against the censorship of the authorities on May 21 in defiance of the fascist "emergency martial law."

Those members of the south Korean journalists association were angered at the arrests last week of its vice-presidents and others.

A practical blackout on the development reigned in south Korea as the journalists started the strike and communications were cut from the riot-torn city of Kwangju.

Censorship put on all news stories in south Korea was tightened after the expansion of the "emergency martial law" on May 18.

On May 22 the demonstrators launched a sit-down around the "provincial government" building, armed with weapons taken from armories of police stations, and the "homeland defence reserve force" and distributed arms to demonstrators at the Kwangju park.

They carried arms by vehicles between Hwasun and Kwangju and transported explosives from the Hwasun Mining Station to the city to blow up a railway bridge and other objects.

A contingent of demonstrators who occupied the Wando county office on May 22 destroyed the Songgwang police station in Sungju county and headed for Kwangju, shouting through loudspeakers, "lift martial law!" and "citizens, rise up!"

They completely raided reservists' armories of the police substations and police booths and wrested quantities of arms and ammunitions of the organs.

The demonstrators of Kwangju advanced to Hampyong, Kochang, and destroyed police stations in Wando, Mokpo and so forth.

With the telegraph and telephone communications to Kwangju cut off, the authorities in Seoul could not have any connection with the local authorities driven out of Kwangju.

A committee for ironing out the situation formed with 15 students, professors and lawyers representing the citizens of Kwangju held negotiations with the local "martial law army command" for the first time on the night of May 22. The committee put up a six-point demand including the discontinuation of the retaliatory steps against the citizens, the immediate release of the arrested citizens and compensation for those killed in the clashes, and strongly urged it to accept the demand.

But the martial law army accepted only the payment of compensation for the dead.

Under such condition, the students showed their readiness to fight the martial law army to the end to realize the immediate resignation of acting "director of the Central Intelligence Agency" Chon Du Hwan and the prompt release of Kim Dae Jung.

Saying that "a fundamental problem was not solved" at the negotiations with the authorities, demonstrators carrying captured weapons in their hands are still standing in confrontation with the troops which threw a cordon in the distance.

Meanwhile, President of the New Democratic Party Kim Yong Sam issued a statement in Seoul, again demanding the lifting of the "martial law."

He also demanded the "government" publish a precise schedule on the holding of "democratic election."

The "martial law command" of south Korea took the step of prohibiting all mass media from reporting about the fighting in Kwangju area as from 8 am May 23.

On May 23 nearly 50,000 Kwangju citizens turned out to the streets and held a demonstration, demanding the lifting of the "martial law" and denouncing the military bosses. Vehicles running along the streets were reportedly all commandeered military jeeps, trucks and cars.

On the night of May 23 a special unit of the south Korean "martial law army" charged into the city and shot dead 24 residents. The special unit also suffered several casualties.

About 2,000 armed demonstrators built a barricade around the provincial "government office" building in the city with trucks and buses on May 23.

The army surrounding Kwangju was reinforced with more than 10 heavy tanks.

On May 24 the martial law army started charging into the city where the anti-"government" fighting was continuing in an attempt to gain control of the city.

Thousands of students and citizens gathered in front of the provincial "government office" where negotiations were going on between the citizens committee and the martial law authorities. Meanwhile, hundreds of demonstrators were still holding out in the suburban area of the city, occasionally firing rifles.

On the morning of May 24, two students and a woman working at a hospital were shot dead at a post of the martial law army while going out to collect blood to be transfused into the hospitalized wounded.

On May 25 Kwangju swept by the fierce anti-"government" fighting was under control of students and citizens who refused to return weapons and are determined to continue fighting. (Continued on page 2)

Mothers crying before their slain children

Pyongyang Rules Out Intervention, Blames Washington

Pyongyang clearly ruled but any intention to intervene in south Korea, whatever confusion might be created there, because it considered that it was the affair of the south Korean people themselves to choose a system to be established in south Korea. Yet Pyongyang declared it would always remain firm on the side of the south Korean people fighting for democracy and actively support their righteous struggle.

This stand was declared in a joint statement published on May 20 by the Workers' Party of Korea and other political parties and public organisations of the DPRK on the proclamation of "emergency martial law" throughout south Korea. (See full text on page 2)

In the statement, Pyongyang singled out Chon Du Hwan for its denunciation. It said: "If the December 12 incident last year and the appearance of military gangster Chon Du Hwan as the boss of the 'yusin' remnants after the incident were already a prelude to the emergence of a new military fascist dictatorship, the new fascist offensive today is clear evidence showing that they cast off their mask and openly entered the road of the military fascist dictatorship."

Pyongyang defended the struggle of south Korean students and people, by calling it "righteous struggle for replacing the order of fascist repression strangling the people with a democratic order guaranteeing freedom and the right to life to them and a patriotic struggle for the peaceful reunification of the country."

Pyongyang said that "the struggle of the south Korean students and people cannot be called disturbances and riotous acts creating any 'confusion' and 'disorder' and endangering the socalled 'security.'"

Pyongyang also charged that "the United States is also to blame for the current situation in south Korea" and urged "it should not attempt to bar the progress toward democracy by instigating the south Korean fascist forces."

Pyongyang also denied the silly explanation on the reason why the south Korean martial law authorities proclaimed "emergency martial law" : "'Communist elements' infiltrated into the current actions of students" and "north Korea is making preparations to send separate commando units to south Korea at an opportune time," in the statement published by the Korean Central News Agency on May 23. (See full text on page 2)

Pyongyang stated that "the present south Korean situation has been created not by any communist or 'collaborator with communism' but by the military fascist elements themselves." "If there had not been the 'yusin system' and oppression, the students and people would not have taken to the street of resistance, shedding blood," Pyongyang added.

The KCNA pointed out that the arrest of ex-"presidential" candidate Kim Dae Jung was "the second 'Kim Dae Jung incident,'" being revived by Chon Du Hwan.

Pyongyang once again stressed that the current south Korean situation was an internal affair of south Korea which had broken out between the democratic and fascist forces of south Korea and it had nothing to do with the DPRK.

In the KCNA statement, Pyongyang also demanded the United States refrain from the criminal act of instigating the military fascist elements denounced by the south Korean people to the sanguinary suppression of people.

Entirely S. Korean Affair: Pyongyang Parties, Bodies

A joint statement was published on May 26 by the Workers' Party of Korea and other political parties and public organisations on the proclamation of the "emergency martial law" throughout south Korea.

The joint statement reads in full:

JOINT STATEMENT

A new "emergency martial law" was proclaimed as from zero hour of May 18 to cover the whole land of south Korea with bayonets in a twinkle when the massive struggle of students and people for social democracy and the right to existence was growing ever fiercer.

This aggressive step was taken by the south Korean fascist elements under the absurd pretext of "southward invasion," connecting the situation with us. This is their habitual tactics.

All the political activities are now suspended and all meetings and political speeches banned under the "martial law decree" in south Korea.

Speech is sealed up, the campus is closed and strike prohibited.

Even the criticism of the ringleader of the "yusin" fascist dictatorship is not allowed and it has become an object of punishment to use even phraseology as used in the northern half of the Republic.

Around the proclamation of the new "emergency martial law" heavily-armed "ROK army" soldiers and armoured cars marched into Seoul to be deployed at all colleges and universities and important points in the city and a wave of wholesale round-up of students and democratic figures is sweeping.

According to reports, already on May 17 scores of student leaders were arrested and ex-"presidential" candidate Kim Dae Jung and his secretaries were arrested on May 18. Besides, a large number of democratic figures of broad segments, such as political, educational and religious, were rounded up in a morning.

Thus, the streets and squares of resistance where the students had marched till yesterday crying for democracy have now turned into a theatre of brutal repression by the martial law army and dark clouds of fascism are again heavily hanging over the land of south Korea where the dawn of democracy was once breaking.

The spectres of "yusin" who had deceived the south Korean people and dragged on time under the signboard of "orderly political development" have now cast off even their mask and openly entered the road of military fascist dictatorship and are trampling underfoot a few rights won by the people.

This outrageous fascist frenzy committed by a handful of military fascist elements is another overt act to strangle the democratic forces and revive the crumbling "yusin system" and a replica of the sanguinary May 16 military coup d'etat.

This is an allout violent offensive against the movement for democracy that is developing into an irresistible trend and another grave challenge to the peaceful reunification of the country.

Moreover, it is a most shameless swindle that the south Korean fascist clique are trying to justify the fascist suppression, groundlessly slandering us who have been consistently striving for the country's peace and peaceful reunification.

All the political parties and public organisations in the northern half of the Republic sternly denounce in the name of the whole nation this open fascist outrage of the military fascist elements committed at a time when a prospect for democracy and peaceful reunification is opening up, considering it a reckless act totally trampling underfoot the right to existence and democratic liberties of the popular masses and an accursed treacherous act barring the road to the country's peace and peaceful reunification.

As is widely known to the world, the "yusin system" set up by Pak Jung Hi is an unheard-of brutal fascist repressive system against the south Korean people, a system of war and division seeking the north-south confrontation and the permanent division of the nation and a despicable treacherous system trading off everything in south Korea to foreign force.

Under this system Pak Jung Hi drenched the land of south Korea with the people's blood, broke up the dialogue, increased tension between the north and the south to the highest pitch and left south Korea lock, stock and barrel to the tender mercy of the outside forces, betraying the nation.

The military fascists have manoeuvred in every way to maintain the anti-democratic, anti-national system left over by the defunct dictator over the past half a year.

They have watched for a chance behind the scene to mount a new counter-attack against the democratic forces, while flouting the south Korean people by the double-faced tactics of appeasement and suppression.

For this sinister purpose, they have kept the state of "emergency martial law" on the excuse of "stability" and "order" and dragged on time, procrastinating the so-called "schedule of political development."

It was precisely in this attempt that they have ceaselessly staged war exercises clamouring about the fictitious "armed infiltration of the north" and "surprise attack of the north" and about the "emergency situation" and thereby created a terror-ridden atmosphere in south Korea and increased tension between the north and the south and persistently followed the line of anti-communist confrontation.

If the December 12 incident last year and the appearance of military gangster Chon Du Hwan as the boss of the "yusin" remnants after the incident were already a prelude to the emergence of a new military fascist dictatorship, the new fascist offensive today is clear evidence showing that they cast off their mask and have openly entered the road of the military fascist dictatorship.

No matter what political screen of "democracy" the present rulers of south Korea serving the military fascist elements headed by Chon Du Hwan as their cat's paw may spread, the truth of the fact cannot be covered up.

The masses of the people are always wise.

The south Korean people who know full well the deceptive tactics of the fascist elements have long seen through their true colour.

This is why the south Korean workers, students and people of other sections rose again resolutely in the struggle against fascism and for democracy not to live as slaves of the "yusin" as in the past.

The struggle of the south Korean students and people cannot be called disturbances and riotous acts creating any "confusion" and "disorder" and endangering the socalled "security," noisily described by the south Korean authorities.

It is a righteous struggle for replacing the order of fascist repression strangling the people with a democratic order guaranteeing freedom and the right to life to them and a patriotic struggle for the peaceful reunification of the country, the cherished desire of the whole nation.

Today the south Korean authorities are answering the struggle of the students and people with allout repression, far from lending an ear to their voice of justice. This itself makes it plain that they have neither intention to democratize the south Korean society nor idea of reunifying the country in a peaceful way, but are only interested in maintaining the "yusin" fascist system and the split of the nation.

Today a handful of military fascist elements are brandishing bayonets, raising their heads again. But this is nothing but the last-ditch efforts of those on their death-bed.

The south Korean authorities should know that they cannot iron out the present situation in south Korea with violence.

History long ago passed a stern judgement on those seeking fascism and national split. On this road, Syngman Rhee dug his own grave and on this road Pak Jung Hi met his miserable end.

In south Korea, today, the workers, peasants, students, intellectuals, religious men and all the opposition parties and opposition democratic forces demand democracy in chorus. Even those who once ganged with the "yusin" fascist force are now coming out against the "yusin system."

No force on earth can stem the waves of democracy raging all over south Korea today. Even the martial law cannot frighten the students, even the bayonet cannot bring the workers to their knees, and the fiction of "southward invasion" can no longer work among the south Korean people.

The harsher the fascist remnants suppress the people in their attempt to extend their remaining days, the stronger resistance they will encounter and in the long run they will meet the same doom as the predecessor.

Fascism is a road of estranging themselves from the south Korean people and the whole nation and heading for self-destruction.

If the south Korean rulers want to find a way out, they should look straight at the trend of the times and lend an ear to the just demand of all the south Korean people.

As the south Korean people demand, they should immediately repeal the "emergency martial law," stop the repressive campaign against the students and democratic figures and release all the people arrested. They should abolish the "yusin system" denounced by the people, carry out democratisation at an early date and guarantee the right to existence and democratic freedom to the south Korean people.

The south Korean "ROK army" soldiers should not level the guns at the students and people and turn out to arrest and suppress them, at the instigation of a tiny handful of military fascist elements, but stand on the side of the patriotic people for the democratisation of the south Korean society and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country.

To abolish the "yusin system" and democratise south Korean society is not only a vital demand of the south Korean people, but also is connected with the road of peaceful reunification, the desire of the whole nation. We are convinced that the south Korean people will come out more determinedly in the struggle for sweeping away the military fascist elements bent on maintaining the "yusin system" and achieving democracy and peaceful reunification.

We will always remain firm on the side of the south Korean people fighting for democracy and actively support their righteous struggle.

We consider that it is the affair of the south Korean people themselves to choose a system to be established in south Korea and, therefore, have no intention to intervene, whatever confusion may be created in south Korea.

But we will never allow the south Korean authorities to provoke us by linking the internal crisis of south Korea with us.

The United States is also to blame for the current situation in south Korea. It should not attempt to bar the progress toward democracy by instigating the south Korean fascist forces. If it defend the fascist elements suppressing the south Korean people, it will also inevitably drink a bitter cup in due time.

We take this opportunity to express the hope that the political parties, public organisations, governments and peoples of all countries of the world who treasure democracy and peace will scathingly expose and denounce the repressive barbarities of the military fascists in south Korea and express stronger solidarity with the south Korean people in their struggle for the democratisation of society and the peaceful reunification of the country.

The Workers' Party of Korea
The Korean Democratic Party
The Chondoist Chongu Party
The Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland
The Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland
The General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea
The Union of Agricultural Working People of Korea
The League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea
The Korean Democratic Women's Union
The General Federation of Literary and Art Unions of Korea
The Federation of Christians of Korea
The Federation of Buddhists of Korea
The Consultative Council of Former South Korean Politicians in the North for the Promotion of Peaceful Reunification
The Korean Journalists Union
The Korean Democratic Lawyers Association
The Korean Students Committee
The Korean Committee for Solidarity with the World People
The Korean Committee for Asian-African Solidarity
The Korean National Peace Committee

Pyongyang, May 20, 1980 (KCNA)

Created by Military Fascist Elements, Not by Communists: KCNA

The Korean Central News Agency on May 23 published the statement on present south Korean situation. The statement reads:

The massive democratic resistance of the students and people of all strata for the liquidation of the "yusin system" and the democratisation of society has now been continuing for more than two months in south Korea.

This struggle gains in scope with each passing day and, especially after the military fascist elements proclaimed the "emergency martial law" throughout south Korea, it has been rapidly developing into a massive rioting. Hundreds of thousands of angry people have risen in resistance in Kwangju and in other areas of South Cholla Province and the riotous actions of the people are sweeping many areas of South Cholla Province.

Where there is oppression there comes resistance and where there is resistance there always comes struggle. This is a law.

The struggle persistently waged now by the south Korean students and people is an eruption of the resentment pent up in them who have been deprived of even their elementary liberties and rights for a long time under the tyranny of "yusin"; it is an expression of their burning determination not to be slaves of "yusin" again. This is a righteous struggle for freedom and democracy and a sacred patriotic struggle for bringing earlier the peaceful reunification of the country.

Nevertheless, the military fascist elements are brutally suppressing the just struggle of the south Korean people. They harshly suppressed the peaceful demonstrations of students by mobilizing all the puppet police forces and are now extensively mobilising the forces of the "ROK army" to step up the allout suppression of the south Korean people. Fully armed martial law troops tanks and armoured cars are being continuously sent to main cities of south Korea and vast repressive forces have already been concentrated in and around Seoul.

Political and public, democratic figures, workers and student leaders are being arrested and imprisoned everyday by the martial law army and the streets of resistance are being drenched with the blood of people who fell under bayonets. Heavily armed paratrooper units have been dispatched to Kwangju to fire even at women and children, to say nothing of demonstrators. They committed without hesitation the brutal atrocities of driving armoured cars over people.

But, the situation in Kwangju patently shows that nor armed suppression can subdue the popular masses who have risen in the righteous resistance.

Having failed to bring the situation under control even with bayonets, the military fascists are now resorting to a shameless political trick in an attempt to find a way out.

According to reports, the south Korean martial law authorities in their statement explaining the reason why they proclaimed the "emergency martial law" raved that "communist elements infiltrated into the current actions of students" and "north Korea is making preparations to send separate commando units to south Korea at an opportune time." And moreover, on May 21, they made public, in the name of the investigation authorities, compiled material on "collaboration with communists" of democratic figure Kim Dae Jung, ex-"presidential" candidate.

This is intended by them to make it appear, reversing black and white, that the massive struggle of the south Korean people for democracy was caused by the communists and the "emergency martial law" was also proclaimed because of the "threat from the north."

The military fascists, however, miscalculated and such deceptive trick can work in no way.

The present south Korean situation has been created not by any communist or "collaborator with communists" but by the military fascist elements themselves.

If there had not been the accursed "yusin system" and oppression, the students and people would not have taken to the street of resistance, shedding blood.

Tens of, hundreds of, thousands of people are marching so eagerly calling for democracy in defiance of bayonets, have turned out of their own accord to win their own democratic rights, not instigated by anyone.

The military fascist elements put the label of "socialism" on the struggle of the students to fabricate the "infiltration" of "communist elements" into their actions. But, there is no need to say that it is a struggle for democracy, not for socialism.

As for Kim Dae Jun whom they call "collaborator with communist," he is widely known to the world as a man who has opposed the fascist "yusin system" and demanded democracy. This is why traitor Pak Jung Hi, though he kidnapped him from Japan in the past, dared not put the "cap of communist" on his head and the present south Korean authorities themselves said that they would deal with personages, except political prisoners who violated the "anti-communist law" and "national security law," after a "serious examination," and released him from house arrest as its part and restored his rights.

Nevertheless, they are now charging him with "collaboration with communists," digging up his acts over the last 30 odd years. This is a big swindle of the military hooligans which can convince no one and a vicious and dirty political stratagem which would put into shame even Pak Jung Hi who murdered by this method anyone falling out of his favour.

Now we, together with the world people, cannot but pay attention to the fact that the brigandish "Kim Dae Jung case" of yesterday which so outraged the world people is being revived today as the second "Kim Dae Jung case" by the military fascists bossed by Chon Du Hwan, a confidant of Pak Jung Hi.

The military fascists allege that the proclamation of the "emergency martial law" throughout south Korea was to counter the "threat from the north." But it is plain to everyone that this is also a trick to put down the struggle of the south Korean people for democracy and maintain the fascist repressive system.

The current south Korean situation is an internal affair of south Korea which broke out between the democratic and fascist forces of south Korea; it has nothing to do with us.

As we clarified repeatedly, we have no intention to intervene in the internal situation of south Korea no matter how it may develop. Proceeding from this stand, we had never interfered nor invaded the south no matter what situation was created in south Korea in the past. We have all along made sincere efforts to promote collaboration and unity between the north and the south and accelerate the peaceful reunification of the country.

Today, too, we are holding a dialogue with the south Korean side for the peaceful reunification of the country, though the south Korean situation is complicated.

This being the fact, what can justify their act in proclaiming the "full emergency martial law," connecting it with us?

As the stark fact shows, today the military fascists threaten the south Korean people in their struggle for democracy, groundlessly blaming them as "communist elements" and "collaborators with communists" and try to connect the internal affairs of south Korea with us in a far-fetched way, crying about "southward invasion." This reminds one of a "thief crying stop thief."

The military fascists, the very author of this, must know this better than anyone else.

We vehemently denounce such anti-communist plot of the military fascists regarding it as a dastardly and reckless gangsterism of the hooligans who have neither elementary human reason nor national conscience and a grave treachery flouting the south Korean people and challenging us.

Originally, to weave an anti-communist plot is a habitual method employed by the fascist elements each time they faced a crisis.

History proves that the fascists of the east and west tried to justify their suppression of the people, resorting to such method. And over the last 30 odd years the fascist dictators of south Korea also threatened and repressed the people by this method.

It is aimed at getting rid of the opposition forces by charging them with a crime they themselves committed and at putting down the anti-fascist resistance spreading like prairie fire by repressing the people who have risen in struggle that today the military fascist elements of south Korea are raising an anti-communist din, groundlessly connecting things with us.

However, they must realise that with this worn-out method can they neither fool nor frighten the south Korean people.

The south Korean people already know full well that such groundless assertions would be spewed out from the mouths of the military fascists on their death-bed. Even if other fictitious "spy case" or "armed infiltration case" may be fabricated tomorrow by the military fascists, there will be no one in south Korea who believe it.

That the military fascists are now clinging to the deceptive propaganda which can convince no one shows that they have no excuse to justify their acts.

With no pretext or plot can they beautify the fascist dictatorship which the south Korean people do not want or justify their brutal repressive outrages against them.

Anti-communism is no longer a "cure-all," and it cannot save them. The military fascist elements must not cling to the reckless anti-communist trick to crack down upon the people, create dissension within the nation and find a way out of it, but give up the dirty political plot even now and discontinue at once brutal suppression and murder of south Korean students and people.

The United States should refrain from the criminal act of instigating the military fascist elements denounced by the south Korean people to the sanguinary suppression of people.

Pyongyang, May 23, 1980 (KCNA)

(Continued from page 1)

Armed students and citizens deployed various weapons at important points of the city to wage street fighting when the "martial law army" launches an attack.

Weapons were redistributed to nearly 2,000 anti-"government" students and citizens in Kwangju with a rumour circulating that the "martial law" would charge into the city.

Students and citizens of Kwangju held fast to the stand of fighting to the end against the "martial law army" as long as their two demands for the lifting of the "martial law" and the resignation of the "chief of the army security command" Chon Du Hwan were not met.

As of 12 noon May 25, armed youths of Kwangju were placing the "provincial government office" under their strict control.

More than 20,000 Kwangju citizens and students on the morning of May 25 held an anti-"government" rally in the rain at the square in front of the "provincial government office. The participants repeatedly demanded the resignation of Chon Du Hwan, "chief of the army security command and acting "Director of the Central Intelligence Agency."

The protesters of Kwangju were resolved to continue the armed resistance till their demands were met.

Forty-nine bodies of dead demonstrators were placed on the opposite side of the "provincial government office building" and a long queue of citizens who turned out to burn incense on the altar was seen standing at the square.

On May 26, south Korean troops and tanks inched forward toward the riot-torn provincial capital of Kwangju in a bid to retake the city, but militant protesters threatened to blow themselves up if the troops attacked.

A civic leader in the town estimated deaths in the nine-day anti-"government" disturbance at between 400 and 600, UPI reported. He said 4,000 to 6,000 others were believed injured, many of whom will die soon because of lack of medical care in the city that has been under a siege.

In Kwangju, about 5,000 citizens were gathered in front of the provincial government building on May 26 morning denouncing martial law authorities of disseminating false information as if the people of Kwangju wanted martial law troops to intervene against the insurgents.

Seoul Dissidents Hit Washington

A dissident group demanded the resignation of a top army man and removal of martial law on May 26 in connection with the nine-day old anti-government rebels in the south-western provincial capital of Kwangju.

The "National Alliance for Democratic Unification, led by former president Yun Bo Son, imprisoned oppositionist Kim Dae Jung and civic leader Ham Sok Hon, issued a statement in defiance of stiff martial law decrees to voice five demands. The demands included:

1. Chon Du Hwan, "head of the army security command" and acting director of the "Central Intelligence Agency," resign from all public offices.
2. Kim Dae Jung and all democratic personalities in jail be freed.
3. "Martial law" be lifted.
4. The "government" announce a detailed plan for transition to a fully democratic order.
5. The armed forces and police maintain strict neutrality.

The statement also warned the press not to publish distorted stories.

"If you are scared of censorship and authorities, throw away your pens," the statement said.

The statement also had a warning to the United States that it should lend a listening ear to the real demands and wishes of the south Korean people and students.

"Why does the United States help Chon Du Hwan to cause deaths and injuries among innocent people?" It asked. "Why does the United States try to repeat in south Korea the disasterous policy mistake it committed in Iran?"

On May 21, Kwangju demonstrators set a street barricade with commandeered buses in anticipation of an attack by martial law troops.

Western Dailies on Seoul's Martial Law

The expansion of emergency martial law proclaimed on May 18 and following brutal atrocities committed against the students and citizens in Kwangju by the martial law command troopers are target of world-wide criticism. In particular, the Western mass media including those of the United States which is a so-called most militant ally of Seoul, expressed grave concern over the Seoul's military junta led by Lt. Gen. Chon Du Hwan

Follow highlights of commentary articles carried in the Western leading papers

Mil. Tyranny

• "The brass hats running South Korea have given answers to their people's cry for political freedom. It's military tyranny.

"After the students abandoned the streets, the generals ringed Government buildings with tanks and decreed martial law for the whole country.

"Monday (May 19) came freedom's coup de grace: The National Assembly and offices of the two major political parties were padlocked. Tuesday the Cabinet quit. That made the dictatorship as tight as anything Park ever imposed.

'Choi Kyu Hah, the figure-head President, explained thus: 'There can be no political development without public safety and social stability without political development.'

"Thus tyrants have always justified the straitjacket. History's lesson goes the other way. There can be no public safety and social stability without political development.

(The Chicago Sun Times, May 22)

• "Except for the fact that there is no sign of an impending North Korean invasion, things could not be worse. Naturally, the coup-makers say an 'emergency situation had been produced by North Korean troop movements' and by civil disturbances. But of course there is no supporting evidence.

"The more likely explanation lies in the situation being created by South Korea's tentative movements toward a new constitution to replace the one that had been the instrument of Park Chung Hee's personal rule.

"Either the recent student demonstrations frightened some of the generals or they simply took advantage of them to make their move. In any event, they have now assured South Korea an indefinite period of instability, since the constitution they prefer is bound to reflect their own craving for dominance and not the political interests of the broader society. For the United States, the new turn is a bitter disappointment." *(The Washington Post*, May 22)

• "Something better is expected of a country that has been dependent on the Americans for so long and which made a fuss when President Carter proposed to withdraw some of the American troops.

"Not only American opinion will have concluded that the demonstrating students have been far too numerous and determined to be dismissed as fringe leftists ..." *(The Times* May 22)

Handiwork of Lieut. Gen. Chon

• "A military decree, backed by tanks and troops, has once again attempted to silence South Korean students, whose cherished if unstested ideals of democracy have outlived one military strongman and may have to outlive another.

"Less than seven months after President Park Chung Hee's 18-year authoritarian rule was ended by an assassin's bullets, another young general in much the same mold has moved to cut off an emerging democratic process. Less than five months after the Park regime's hated Emergency Decree 9 was lifted, Martial Law Decree 10 was imposed: no political activity, no assemblies, no free press, no strikes, no rumors, no criticism of the present President or his predecessors, and no college.

"Officially, Martial Law Decree 10 was adopted by the Cabinet of President Choi to curb student unrest. Officially, the sweeping arrests were authorized by the Martial Law Command to investigate political corruption and student agitation.

"But there is no doubt in any political circles here that both moves were the handiwork of Lieut. Gen. Chon Too Hwan, a 47-year-old Park loyalist who after consolidating his grip on the South Korean armed forces felt ready to move onto the political front.

"By arresting some of the wealthiest cronies of his mentor, President Park, General Chon has purged the ruling Democratic Republican Party of discredited but well-known political leaders who may have been able to buy an election, thereby creating a vacuum into which a future leader more to his liking—perhaps himself—could enter.

"By cracking down, once again, on dissidents and students influenced by Kim Dae Jung, General Chon has soothed army fears, whether justified or not, that a left-leaning anti-military leader might find his way to power.

"...the nationwide declaration of martial law and the new arrests have set back a democratization process that a great many South Koreans wanted." *(The New York Times*, May 20)

Serious Setback to Democratic Reform

"The military takeover of South Korea's government is the most serious setback to democratic reform in months and could spark more street violence.

"Legally, Saturday (May 24) night's adoption of extraordinary martial law was a much more serious step than the partial imposition of martial law after President Park Chung Hee was assassinated last October.

"President Choi Kyu Hah, installed as interim President last December, remains in office. Under the constitution the President is to retain control of the military under extraordinary martial law, but Mr. Choi appears to be playing a minor role in running the country. After the huge and sometimes violent student protests last week, Mr. Choi returned Friday (May 16) from an official visit overseas, one day early. But he hasn't held discussions with the Education Minister, an authoritative source said. Nor has he met with the full Cabinet.

"The imposition of expanded martial law is in direct defiance of what the students have been demanding and other groups have been supporting. In addition, it has consolidated Gen. Chun's power. The general wasn't present at the Cabinet meeting that approved the crackdown, but it is widely believed that he ordered it. 'Chun Doo-Hwan must be behind it,' said a Korean businessman.

"The government held a flurry of meetings, and civilian officials said they were proposing conciliatory steps to ease the crisis. Newspaper headlines late Saturday (May 15) proclaimed that the government would announce major steps early in the week.

"But instead, around 6 p.m., the first sign appeared that somebody in power planned to crack down: Several buses of riot police drove onto the campus of Ehwa Women's University, to rade a peaceful meeting of student leaders from colleges and universities nationwide. Many of the students escaped, but 15 were picked up.

"Before the meeting broke up, the student leaders agreed to postpone demonstrations five more days, sources said. But they also decided to resume protests on Friday if martial law hadn't been lifted and if Gen. Chun and Prime Minister Shin hadn't resigned. Whether the police were informed of these resolutions isn't known.

"At about 9 p.m., Cabinet members suddenly were summoned to the capitol for an emergency meeting. When they arrived, soldiers in combat gear were lining the stairway and halls. In a conference room, the ministers sat around a long rectangular table, and Defense Minister Choo Young-Bok asked them to extend martial law to cover the entire country. This would make the Martial Law Commander responsible to only the President rather than the Cabinet.

"Mr. Shin signed the order and passed it to Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hahn-Been. Mr. Lee and then every other Cabinet minister in order of succession silently signed the measure. Soldiers weren't in the room, but because of 'the atmosphere' in the hallways outside, there was 'not a word against it,' one Cabinet member said. The government announced that the meeting had lasted 30 minutes, but actually 'it took about two minutes,' the minister said.

Because the assembly could vote against martial law, the military may block the meeting. According to the constitution, martial law must be repealed if a majority of the assembly votes against it. But the President has the power to dissolve the assembly." *(The Asian Wall Street Journal*, May 20)

• "The entire South Korean Cabinet resigned today (May 21), leaving the fate of the country in the hands of the army as anti-government disturbances continued in the south.

"Under the provisions of the 1972 Yusin 'revitalising' constitution, President Choi Kyu-Hah —who remains in his figurehead post—can appoint a new Prime Minister and Cabinet.

"But because this move needs the approval of the South Korean Parliament, which has in effect been dissolved due to the total ban on political activity in the country, there is virtually no possibility of a new civilian government being formed.

"The 38 million people in the country will thus be under direct control of the army, the principal force in South Korea since the late President Park took power in 1961.

"The resignations of the Parliament came hours after the Supreme Court upheld the convictions and death sentences imposed on Kim Jae-Kyu, former KCIA head, and four other KCIA agents, for the assassination of President Park Chung-Hee last October.

"The Supreme Court's decision is seen as an attempt by the martial law authorities to warn rioting students that they will not hesitate to crack down harshly on any further demonstration." *(The Straits Times*, May 21)

Seoul's Doubtful Ability for Democracy

• "The military authorities obviously had become alarmed, because the demonstrations were the most extensive in South Korea since the assassination of President Park Chung Hee seven months ago...The demonstrations had followed three days of rioting among striking coal miners in the southern city of Sabuk. Now, the army's crackdown raised fresh doubts about South Korea's ability to make a successful transition to democratic rule.

"The prime mover behind the military action, by all accounts, was Lieut. General Chon Du Hwan, 48, the shadowy military strongman behind the weak caretaker Cabinet of President Choi Kyu Hah, 60. Chon, a tough career soldier who once fought alongside U.S. forces in Viet Nam, assumed effective control behind the scenes following his couplike arrest last December of the former martial law commander, General Chung Seung Hwa." *(Time*, May 26)

"South Korea's military rulers had seized the opportunity to consolidate their own power. Last week's riots were the most serious challenge yet to Choi's government...Pressure for early democratic elections had been mounting steadily on the nation's campuses. Fearing that the situation was getting dangerously out of hand, the army used the riots as an excuse to remove even the pretense of civilian government in South Korea—and any doubt about who really runs the country. 'There's no question that a bloodless coup has occurred', said one U.S. official. There is no more civilian government. It looks pretty ugly.

"Limited martial law had been in effect since Park's murder but did not apply to Cheju Island, off the country's south coast—a technicality that allowed for civilian control of the country. But the new mandate includes Cheju Island and leaves no doubt that Korea is, at least for the time being, a military state.

"The army waited until Choi had returned from a trip abroad to impose its will, probably to make it seem as though the civilian President was in on the decision. The crackdown come in the face of repeated U.S. warnings and threatened to make an already explosive situation even worse. Much will depend on whether the students are cowed—or enraged. If they go into the streets against bloodshed seems certain." *(Newsweek*, May 26)

• "The military moves appear to have isolated the army leader-both domestically and internationally, and Chon may also have left himself dangerously vulnera ble with the earlier purge of several hundred KCIA agents.

"The military decision was given to the president, a cabinet meeting hastily called to formally pass the regulation without option in a guarded cabinet room, and the nation informed. But not before Chon's security men and troops had moved in to arrest 26 "agitators and illegal money makers" including Kim Dae Jung and Kim Jong Pil, as well as about 100 student leaders.

"With arrest of the two Kims, the possibility of moving forward on the sort of political reform timetable previously suggested by the president and reaffirmed after martial law was extended is impossible." *(The Far Eastern Economic Review*, May 23)

No Condition Permits Restoration of Yusin

• "The South Korean Government has now proclaimed martial law throughout the nation. All political activity has been banned, politicians and intellectuals have been arrested and troops are standing guard in Seoul. South Korea is under de facto military control.

"...the government and the military decided against resolving the situation by lending ear to the dissatisfactions of the people. Instead, they took the worst possible course of clamping down on political activity and the demands for democracy by invoking the powers of the state, arousing the fear that there will be a reenactment of the 'military revolution' of May 16, 1961.

"But political, economic and social conditions and the political consciousness of the South Korean people are very different to what they were 20 years ago. This is particularly true in the case of economic conditions. Even if the military are against moves that will lead to the complete renunciation of Park's policies, domestic and internatio nal conditions are not such as will permit the complete restoration of the Yushin system. 'Military government' and the suppression of democratic measures will probably not continue for long.

"Presumable, Kim Dae Jung was arrested because the martial law command feared his powers of leadership. But the case of Kim also should have taught the South Koreans that the suppression of the freedom of one individual results in stronger demands for freedom and arouses international criticism.

"The Choi Government and the martial law command have decided to deal with the crisis by taking emergency measures, but these will not lead to a basic solution of the problems facing South Korea. The situation will worsen if the emergency measures are kept in force for a long time.

"The international situation is becoming more tense as a result of the political instability in developing countries, and the events in South Korea are causing concern throughout the world. It is hoped that South Korea will dismantle its martial law system as soon as possible and mature into a democratic country." *(The Asahi Shimbun*, May 19)

INTERNATIONAL
Herald Tribune
Pacific Stars and Stripes
Protesters fire on ROK troops, hold Kwangju
The New York Tim
South Korean Cabinet Army Group Possible
Fate of country in hands of army
SOUTH KOREA

The Western dailies extensively reported the expansion of martial law throughout whole of south Korea on May 18.

Angry demonstrators set cars afire on May 21 in Kwangju. (UPI)

Paratroopers Kill Compatriots

Kwangju Scene of Son My, My Lai: Press Accounts

Kwangju, some 250 kilometers south of Seoul, has been turned into a veritable shambles such as Son My and My Lai villages in Vietnam in March, 1968. The bloody battles between the civilian demonstrators armed with iron pipes, kitchen knives and broken bottles and Martial Law command troopers left 247 persons dead and over 10,000 wounded during seven days from May 20 to 27. Especially, special paratroopers sent in the initial stage held guns on their brothers and sisters, brutally killed everyone including unarmed innocent children, and committed horrible atrocities such as cutting down the breasts of a sound female highschool student who led the female demonstration.

Follow fragmentary reports on their atrocities carried in the south Korean daily and foreign news papers:

"2 p.m.—When the demonstrators massed around the provincial government buildings at 2 p.m., a young female demonstrator shouted: 'Citizens in Kwangju, never return home! We have no weapons. Martial Law troopers, let's join us. (they called on troopers to join in their struggle) We are beloved brothers and sisters of you soldiers. Martial Law Command troopers shot three for four tear bombs to prevent the over 100,000 demonstrators from marching straight to the provincial government buildings.' She also shouted: 'Never retreat from the front, tear bombs never kill us. Forward!" *(The Hangul Ilbo*. May 23)

Photo: In order to break up the demonstrators, plain clothesmen lifted a student of a group of sit-in demonstrations in Seoul on May 14. (UPI)

Breasts of Young Girl Cut Down

"May 19: The sporadic demonstrations led by the students were made at several scores of places. The troopers suddenly adopted an stiffened attitude and stabbed the students through bayonets. The students covered with blood called for help of surrounding shops and private houses. Mr. A got a report informed him of the fact that a number of demonstrator were killed.' He witnessed a number of dead bodies carried bicycle trailers. The crowd shouted: 'Why the soldiers killed the students.' The angry crowd joined the demonstrations with a cry of protest 'the soldiers killed unarmed students.' Shopkeepers sent in Cocacolas, boiled eggs and rice to the students.

"In the evening, the reporter heard that over 100 demonstrators were already killed.

"It is well-known fact that Martial Law paratroopers sent to Kwangju resorted to severe violence. The reporter also heard that: A trooper cut down the breasts of a young female highschool student who led the female demonstration; a president was also killed outright because of the reasons that he protested against the paratrooper who killed his students; and a mother committed suicide following her two children who were brutally killed by the soldiers." *(The Asahi Shimbun*, May 23)

Indiscriminate Killing

"At a clinic, a student lies with a bullet wound in the leg. The doctor says that in his hospital along 'three people died of bullet wounds this afternoon.' The casualties, young males, had been shot near the provincial government headquarters, one of three places in the city where soldiers were still battling with townspeople Wednesday (May 21). The doctor says he treated a woman who had been stabbed with a bayonet. She was transferred to a larger hospital, he says.

"An hysterical woman stops the car, crying 'What can we do? They're killing everyone.'

"At Kwangju Christian Hospital, staff members explain that they have more than 60 wounded and four dead. Some have M-16 gunshot wounds. A hospital staffer says some have wounds from M-16 shots fired from helicopters. A reporter finds reports of helicopter gunships being used against the students hard to believe, but when a small observation helicopter later flies over, a crowd in the Hospital parking lot dives for cover. A foreigner in the city says he has seen five or six large helicopters and has heard gunfire when they were in the air, 'I'm convinced they were shooting,' he says.

"Hospital workers lead a reporter to a small building.

"How many more bodies are in other hospitals throughout Kwangju is impossible to find out. But it seems likely that the dead must number at least several dozen." *(The Asian Wall Street Journal*, May 23)

Numerous Injured, Left on Streets

"Paratroopers charged into the demonstrators and clubbed and beat those they could get. The soldiers swung the butts of their M-16 rifles while the demonstrators countered with rocks and sticks. On several occasions soldiers isolated from other troops were overpowered by demonstrators and beaten.

"There were numerous injuries, a witness said, with injured lying on the streets. There was no exact number of injuries reported." *(The Pacific Stars and Stripes*, May 21)

"The unit of paratroopers blamed for harsh actions the previous two days (May 20 and 21), including severe beating of students, was withdrawn overnight and another sent in, witnesses said." *(AP*, May 22)

"The Martial Law Command has acknowledged six deaths over four days (from May 19 to 22)—One civilian and five soldiers or policemen killed Tuesday (May 20). Other sources said that in addition to 11 dead Wednesday (May 21), 11 others died Tuesday and two Monday (May 19). Protesters carried the bodies of some victims through the streets on cars Wednesday.

Riot police kicked the students of Seoul's Yonsei University to disperse them on May 13. (AP)

Beating, Kicking

"The soldiers treated the students harshly, beating and kicking some and tripping others in the streets. The actions angered the rest of the city and the riots spread.*(The Asahi Evening News*, May 23)

"Kwangju's four hospitals reported 61 dead in four-day street battles, with at least 389 wounded or injured.

"Bodies lay in makeshift morgues as relatives tried to identify missing family members. Most of the dead were male civilians, some of them students. *(UPI*, May 24)

"Witnesses said soldiers fired on demonstrators who tried to use buses and at least one armored personnel carrier to attack the provincial government building here. At least 11 persons were known dead and 63 injured at one hospital, and other victims were taken elsewhere. *(AP*, May 22)

Placing Kwangju in Proper Perspective: In-Depth Analysis

On May 18 students carried out peaceful demonstrations through main streets of Kwangju, a city with the population of between 650,000 and 700,000, southwest of Seoul, demanding the lifting of martial law and the abolition of *yusin*, on whom martial law paratroops fired. Then, the army brutality prompted the whole citizens to join the student demonstrators. Their number swelled to some 200,000, one third of the population of the city, or almost all the adult residents.

The demonstrators seized weapons, ammunition and armored vehicles from the army forces and expelled them from the city, keeping control of the city for over one week.

In face of the open hostility of the citizens, the army troops implored them to stop resistance as they would be withdrawing. The city of Kwangju was so to speak "a liberated area."

The civil disturbances spread to Mokpo, Raju, Changsong, Hwasung and to all the other parts of South Cholla Province, creating a kind of civil-war situation, the largest-scale resistance to the Seoul authorities in recent years.

Some observers compare the present struggle to the Great Peasant Uprising of 1894 (the Kabo Peasant War) and the Kwangju Student Incident of 1929 fa nation-wide anti-Japanese movement kicked off by the mockery by the Japanese students of a Korean girl student on a train running between Kwangju and Raju). They also liken it to the Ryosu-Sunchon mutiny of 1948. Yet, the current uprising dwarfs them in terms of struggle form and method, an unparalleled historic resistance.

The south Korean authorities and some newspapers close to them cite "a tactical retreat of the troops and police" and "operational considerations" in a bid to play down the Kwangju struggle. There is no denying that the people seized control of the city for several days, however. Even martial law commander Gen. Li Hui Song and acting "premier" Pak Chung Hun flew to the city by helicopter but were unable to enter the beleaguered city.

The point here is not the physical power of the Kwangju people which is no match to the military capability of the army forces, though the demonstrators are now possessed of some weapons. Revealing is the fact that the fierce civil resistance has caused a confusion in the chain of command within the army forces, making military suppression difficult.

CAUSES

What are the causes which have led Kwangju citizens and the provincial people to such fiery resistance?

The following are possible reasons as cited by some experts:

(1) Kwangju is a home base of Kim Dae Jung.

(2) Cholla Province's people's traditional anti-Seoul sentiments

(3) Their resentment at Kyongsang Provinces

It is true that Kim Dae Jung is a native of South Cholla Province, a leading opposition figure arrested by the martial law command. Gen. Chon Du Hwan and his followers responsible for the dispatch of army troops to Kwangju where they mishandled the demonstrators in a beastly manner are a group hailing from Kyongsang Provinces.

Therefore, it is easy to imagine that the afore-said factors are behind the present Kwangju uprising.

In particular, Chon Du Hwan and company announced what they termed an interim report on Kim Dae Jung's crimes and conspiracies and alleged that he is a behind-the-scenes mastermind of the Kwangju affair. This conduct has angered not only Cholla-do(province) people but also people in other parts of south Korea. For the allegations about him are groundless in every respect.

Nevertheless, the arrest of Kim Dae Jung cannot be a main reason of the Kwangju affair. The causes of the Kwangju affair must be found somewhere else, namely, the underlying factors of the south Korean situation.

In order to understand them, it may be necessary to identify the demands listed by the Kwangju citizens. Newspaper accounts give the following demands made public by the Kwangju people:

(1) The resignation of the Choi Gyu Ha "regime"

(2) The immediate execution of army security commander Chon Du Hwan

(3) Transfer of power to the democratic forces

(4) The release of those students and dissidents detained

(5) Lifting of martial law

(6) The immediate reopening of universities and colleges

(7) Truthful reporting by mass media of the Kwangju affair

(8) The prompt cessation of gunfiring on the demonstrators)

(9) Discontinuation of distorted reports on the so-called feelings of the Cholla-do people toward the Kyongsang-do people.

The above is far from a complete list of demands. For example, Kwangju demonstrators shouted, "Death to Chon Du Hwan!" and "Dismember Chon Du Hwan!" a good illustration of the indignation of the people against the strongman. These slogans clearly indicate the causes of the current affair. In short, the key factors in the uprising are the resolve of Chon Du Hwan and company to maintain the *yusin* regime inherited from Pak Jung Hi even by resorting to the invocation of full martial law throughout south Korea. The immediate cause is in that the May 18 expansion of full martial law to the whole of south Korea, a clampdown on all kinds of political activities and mass arrests of political figures and student leaders.

BACKGROUND

It was when full martial law was expanded to the whole of south Korea on May 18 that Chon Du Hwan and other *yusin* remnants revealed their true colors. The proclamation of full martial law i mounted to a second military takeover, an announcement on placing the whole of south Korea under military rule.

The *yusin* followers try to justify their action by referring to the threat from the north and student disturbances, a fact discarded as unfounded in many quarters. The State Department, the Pentagon and the U.S. commander in south Korea all agree that there is no sign of "north Korean strike." The students are not to blame for the current affair. Whole responsibility rests with Chon Du Hwan and company.

Choi Gyu Ha announced "a timetable for political development" and a series of "democratic reforms". None of his promises except for the revocation of emergency decree no. 9 and release of some political prisoners has been fulfilled. No details of the timing, contents and methods of the timetable have been made public. In other words, an effort have been intensified to delay the restoration of democracy as long as possible and keep in place *yusin* without Pak.

This is obvious as seen in what they have done during the past seven months.

The December 12 purge of the military, the April 14 appointment of Chon Du Hwan as acting intelligence chief, the production of the "government initiated draft Constitution, the expansion of full martial law to the whole of south Korea and the installation of military administration—these are what "reforms" they have undertaken.

As pointed out by many watchers, Chon Du Hwan and other rulers in Seoul are hellbent on beautifying and preserving the Pak Jung Hi dictatorship without Pak, while paying lip service to "democratic reforms."

Most illustrative is a clearly-stated ban on a slander of the former head of state(Pak Jung Hi) under martial law decree No. 10.

It is utterly ridiculous for rulers to speak of "democracy" under martial law. Their references to "democracy" and "Constitutional amendment" are intended to deceive the south Korean people and the world public. To be precise, "democratization" is a synonym with the Pak Jung Hi dictatorship. It is a "disguised democracy" based on fascism.

What is tragic and comic is a deep-rooted belief of the *yusin* followers that the south Korean people could be cheated with allegations about the threat from the north, anti-Communism and lip service to "democratic reforms."

A hard fact of life, however, is that the long-smouldering popular discontents have reached their explosion point. The south Korean students, workers, journalists, intellectuals and dissident forces are all well aware of the ulterior intention of the remnants of *yusin* and of their fundamental nature as dictatorial. This explains why miners of Tongwon and students of Seoul and other cities put up organized resistance to the *yusin* forces in a showdown, calling for human rights, liberty and democracy.

The students with a keen sense of justice and mission have found the situation intolerable any longer and realized that the *yusin* supporters were gaining time to regroup. A strong determination have bound the students, a resolve not to allow a return to the Pak dictatorship or its repetition and to spearhead the anti-*yusin* struggle. This commitment is a shared sentiment of the whole south Korean people.

This is the background against which large-scale uprisings have taken place in Kwangju and in the rest of Cholla Provinces as a part of the national campaign for democracy.

AMERICAN ATTITUDE

So far, the United States has been reported critical of Chon Du Hwan and other brasshats. Reports alleged that Washington expressed displeasure with the December 12 incident. Similar displeasure was reportedly voiced over the installation of Chon as acting intelligence chief.

This notwithstanding, the Kwangju affair provided a clear indication of the real attitude of Washington. The wording Carter Administration officials used in expressing "concern" over the expansion of full martial law, the arrests of politicians and the Kwangju case is too ambiguous to become a criticism of the Seoul authorities. Evidence is that the United States stands on the side of Chon Du Hwan and company.

Regarding the December 12 incident, the United States expressed what it called "displeasure" over the lack of prior consultations, but this time, no criticism was voiced of the invocation of full nation-wide martial law, proof of the advance approval of the United States. It is senseless if the United States were unaware of the move to expand martial law nationwide because the Americans retain operational control of the south Korean forces. The sudden return home of Gen. Wickham, U.S. commander, can easily be construed as an attempt to pretend ignorance and set up an alibi.

The following steps taken by Washington show that the United States backs Chon Du Hwan: (1) the U.S.-south Korea Combined Forces Command released south Korean forces from its operational control for deployment in suppressing the uprising; (2) E3A's were removed to Okinawa for a contingency purpose; (3) Midway and Coral Sea, aircraft carriers, were ordered into the Korean waters; and (4) no consideration is under way of reducing military assistance to Seoul. More significantly, the United States has refrained from attacking Chon by name.

On the other hand, the United States is publicizing its readiness to take strong countersteps to any external attempt to exploit the situation in south Korea in accordance with its treaty obligations. U.S. ambassador to Tokyo Mansfield declared that the United States will support south Korea as long as necessary.

All these facts indicate that despite its professed interest in "democratic reforms," the United States sides with Chon Du Hwan and his followers who oppose democracy and strive to maintain their military dictatorship.

Consequently, it is safe to conclude that the United States has learned no lesson from Vietnam, Iran and Nicaragua.

PROSPECTS

On May 26, the martial law troops moved into the city of Kwangju and killed a few hundred civilians. It is hard to predict how the south Korean situation will develop. The situation is volatile and fluid, taking on complexity. One thing is clear, however: The political and economic crisis will aggravate further, resulting in out-threat internal contradictions.

Chon Du Hwan and his ilk will intensify their crackdown on the movement for democracy and end up with their own ruination. They have lost public support completely and become their common enemy. They have antagonized not only the students but also the workers, intellectuals, journalists, Christians and democratic Opposition figures. What is worse, they have alienated their ally, the Democratic-Republican Party and many military leaders.

Silly enough, Chon Du Hwan and company are clinging to the outdated method of ruling the population at gunpoint. They are not aware that such way will backfire, inviting public resentment. The Kwangju affair provides this truth. Nobody can deny that similar situations will happen in other places.

By wielding bayonet-attached guns could they repress the people temporarily in order to remain in power. History goes the other way, however: no happy ending for any dictator. A case in point is the stern assassination of Pak Jung Hi.

Today, the south Korean economy is in deep trouble. The first quarter of this year showed minus 1.7 percent growth, with jobless people increasing in number and inflation out of control.

Any attempt to oppress the people under these circumstances will prove disastrous. The only option available to end such crisis is to have Chon Du Hwan and his ilk go, abolish *yusin* completely and restore democratic order. It should be accompanied by steps to remove foreign forces from south Korea and move toward north-south reunification.

The south Korean people will go this path without fail.

In Kwangju, students and citizens armed with rifles and a light machinegun

Anti-*yusin* protestors in Kwangju ride in a commandeered dump truck on May 25, among the many vehicles, including four armored personnel carriers. (WWP Radio Photo)

Chongryun's Urgent Appeal For Worldwide Support to S. Korean Struggle

The following is a text of the appeal addressed to the peace-loving peoples of the world as it was adopted on May 25 at the central rally held in Tokyo of Korean residents in Japan to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan):

On behalf of the 700,000 Korean residents in Japan, we, assembled in their central rally to commemorate the 25th anniversary of Chongryun (the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan), are addressing this appeal to the peoples of the world who champion justice and social progress. We are unable to stay idle while a grave situation is developing in south Korea.

As well known, the south Korean *yusin* remnants clamped a nation-wide full martial law on May 18 in order to suppress the massive moves of the students and citizens for democracy and human rights. Fascist terror reigns in that part of Korea.

As a result, all political activities are prohibited and the press gagged in south Korea, with schools closed and labor strike banned. Mass arrests were made of students, democratic dissidents, intellectuals, journalists and religionists, as they stood for liberty and democracy.

Since May 18, students and citizens have been keeping up their demands for the removal of Chon Du Hwan and other *yusin* followers. Their number grew to over 200,000. Then began brutal raids on them of heavily-armed martial law troops and riot police, leaving several hundred killed and tens of thousands wounded.

Angered at this, people of Kwangju and its neighboring areas are carrying out heroic resistance, demanding the lifting of martial law, the resignation of the present rulers, the abolition of *yusin* dictatorship and the release of all the political detainees.

The resistance movement is fast spreading to other parts of south Korea like a prairie fire. It is reminiscent of the April 19 Popular Uprising 20 years ago which toppled Syngman Rhee.

This struggle is a just struggle to end fascist rule and restore liberty and human rights. It is a patriotic movement for the peaceful reunification of Korea, the greatest aspiration of its people.

It is no wonder that the struggle of the south Korean people is receiving unanimous support and sympathy in the honest-minded peoples of the world who love justice, democracy and peace.

Instead of lending their ears to the justifiable demands of the patriotic people, the south Korean fascist gangsters are reacting to their struggle with a full-scale crackdown.

The Americans, while citing the non-existent threat from the north, have alerted their troops in south Korea, deployed E3A's to Okinawa and diverted a naval fleet into the Korean waters, a move to create a war atmosphere. They unhesitatingly support the present south Korean authorities and approve their military suppression of the people.

What do these moves of the south Koreans and the Americans mean?

The message is quite significant: they have no intention to restore democracy in south Korea and to find a negotiated settlement of the reunification issue. They are preoccupied with maintaining *yusin* indefinitely and perpetuating the division of Korea as "two Koreas."

South Korea is now being forced to choose between fascism and democracy and between division and reunification.

The situation is urgent indeed.

We sincerely call upon the peace-loving peoples of the world to initiate different actions intended to expose the truculent clampdown on the students and people by the military fascists and to support their rightful struggle for democracy and the peaceful reunification.

STATISTICS OF CHONGRYUN 25 YEARS OLD

Founding Day	May 25, 1955
Chairman	Han Duk Su
Central Headquarters	Tokyo
Organization	Japan-wide network 49 local headquarters 310 chapters 1,800 subchapters
Member organizations	14, comprising youth, women, businessmen
Owned enterprises	17, including newspapers, trade firms, credit associations
Educational aid funds and stipends from Pyongyang	A total of 28,378,820,000 yen in Japanese currency on 75 installments from 1957
Periodicals	39, including the Korean-language daily, weeklies in Japanese, English, French and Spanish
Circulation	147 countries, Koreans here and abroad, Japanese and foreigners
Schools	153 67 kindergartens 85 primary schools 56 junior high schools 11 senior high schools one university
Credit Associations	37 head offices 152 branch offices A total of U.S.$ 2.3 billion
Affiliated International Bodies	11, including The International Association of Democratic Lawyers Association, the World Peace Council, the International Organization of Journalists, the World Democratic Youth, the International Women's Federation
Returnees to the DPRK	Some 100,000 from 1959
Korean visitors to the DPRK	6,700 from 1965
Korean trips abroad	30 delegations to 43 countries
Korean settlement in Japan	Began in 1910 when Japan annexed Korea Mostly as laborers or cannon fodders A record number of over 2.5 million during WWII
Racial discrimination	Still harsh and widespread
Native towns	Mostly in south Korea
Occupation	Once day laborers, and now mostly petty businessmen
Language	Korean used among Koreans
Customs	Still observe traditional costums

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